13 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

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FROM:

OTR/IS/OBF

SUBJECT:

Report on Vietnam Area Course No. 2

## 1. Basic Data

The second running of the Vietnam Area Course took place 11-15 March 1968 in Room 1 A 13. Enrollment consisted of 35 persons; 25 were being processed for assignment to Vietnam, and 10 were Headquarters personnel from various Agency components. This enrollment is similar to that of the first running, wherein there were 36 persons enrolled, of whom 24 were going to Saigon and 12 were headquarters personnel.

The video machine in Room 1 E 74 broke down on Monday, and hence the first scheduled film was not shown.

was unable, because of an out-of-town trip,

## 2. Changes in Schedule

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to present his lecture on Wednesday, 13 March; in its place I showed the very excellent filmed lecture by Dr. on Communist Revolutionary Warfare. Happily this substitute was well received by the students. Also was able to appear the next day to answer questions on his film by reason of the absence due to illness of An additional comment on this appearance by will be found in paragraph 4 below.

## Outside Speakers 3.

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Six outside speakers participated in this program. From State came Messrs. Smyser and Marsh and from the Department of Defense, Colonel Dexter. From came each of whom was paid \$50.00; generously

refused to accept the \$50.00 honorarium offered. apparently felt that his appearance in a question-and-

answer stance was not deserving of the fee.

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## 4. High Points

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First, as in the initial running of this course, Dr.

proved a highly effective speaker. He is learned,
urbane, witty, and quite articulate, and the long period
of time, some 40 years, with which he has been associated
with Southeast Asia, has given him a wealth of interesting
experiences from which to draw in addressing a group so
much younger and less familiar with the area than he himself. Second, the combination of the filmed lecture by
and his subsequent appearance occurred, of
course, when there was a great deal of interest in the
analysis of the Tet offensive a month earlier.

appearance drew several persons from FE and SAVA.

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5. Critiques

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The critiques continue to be favorable; however, one question on the critique solicits critical comments on the speakers. Sixteen of the critiques included some mildly adverse comment on seven different speakers. Once again the language lectures and top the list with 4 black marks each. I have not yet figured out what is wrong with the language instruction; I know, is scholarly in a pedantic way and he cannot resist the temptation to explore hurriedly every historical by-way in the last 2500 years of Vietnam's history. This can be confusing, but I do not yet have anybody available who can cover Vietnam before 1954. The other speakers who were criticized **,** an**2**5X1A9a were Colonel Dexter and Messrs. ; but these comments reflect highly subjective re-25X1A5a1 actions and I do not take them seriously. At the same time, I want to point out that the following were specifically favorably mentioned: Messrs.

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Unier, intelligence School

Att: Roster Schedule

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